# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

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U.S. ATTORNEY'S SDNY

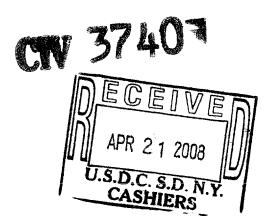
NADEEM CHOUDHARY (A# 89 357 396),

Plaintiff,

Case No

V.

MICHAEL B. MUKASAY, Attorney Gene The United States of America, MICHAEL CHERTOFF, Secretary of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, ROBERT S. MUELLER, III, Director, Federal Bureau of Investigations DR. EMILIO T. GONZALEZ, Director, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services ANDREA QUARANTILLO, District Director, Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services, New York District Office



Defendants.

### PLAINTIFF'S ORIGINAL COMPLAINT FOR WRIT IN THE NATURE OF MANDAMUS

**COME NOW**, NADEEM CHOUDHARY, Plaintiff in the above-styled and numbered cause, and for cause of action would show unto the Court to following:

1. This action is brought against the Defendants to compel action on an application for lawful permanent resident status properly filed by the Plaintiff over one year ago. The application was filed and remains within the jurisdiction of the Defendants, who have improperly withheld action on said application to Plaintiff's detriment.

#### **PARTIES**

- 2. Plaintiff, NADEEM CHOUDHARY, is a native citizen of Pakistan. Plaintiff first entered the United States on or about April 1, 2000. He had filed for adjustment of status and immediate relative status on January 1, 2007. The immediate relative petition was approved on April 18, 2007. His adjustment of status petition remains unadjudicated to this day.
- 3. Defendant, MICHAEL B. MUKASEY, is the Attorney General of the United States of America, and this action is brought against him in his official capacity. He is generally charged with enforcement of the Immigration and Nationality Act, and is further authorized to delegate such powers and authority to subordinate employees of

the Department. More specifically, the Attorney General is granted "sole authority to naturalize persons as citizens of the United States." 8 U.S.C.§1421.

- 4. Defendant, MICHAEL CHERTOFF, is Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security, and this action is brought against him in his official capacity. He is generally charged with enforcement of the Immigration and Nationality Act, and is further authorized to delegate such powers and authority to subordinate employees of the Department of Homeland Security, including employees of the USCIS. 8 USC §1103(a). More specifically, he is responsible for the adjudication of applications for adjustment of status filed pursuant to §245 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA), 8 USC §1255.
- 5. Defendant, ROBERT S. MUELLER, III, is the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigations, and this action is brought against him in his official capacity. The Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI) is the investigative arm of the U.S. Department of Justice, authorized under Title 28, Section 533 of the U.S. Code to conduct investigations against terrorists and foreign intelligence threats and to uphold and enforce the criminal laws of the United States. In furtherance of that mission, the FBI is currently authorized to conduct security background investigations concerning aliens applying for various benefits under the Immigration and Nationality Act
- 6. Defendant, DR. EMILIO T. GONZALEZ, is the Director of the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services, in charge with ultimate authority over all operations of the USCIS, said operations including, but not limited to, the adjudication of parties for naturalization.
- 7. Defendant, ANDREA QUARANTILLO, is the District Director of the New York Office of the USCIS generally charged with supervisory authority over all operations of the USCIS within her District with certain specific exceptions not relevant here. 8 CFR §103.1(g)(2)(ii)(B). As will be shown, Defendant District Director is the official with whom Plaintiffs' application and motion for lawful permanent resident status were properly filed.

### **JURISDICTION**

8. Jurisdiction in this case is proper under 28 USC §§1331 and 1361, 5 USC §701 et seq., and 28 USC §2201 et seq. Relief is requested pursuant to said statutes.

#### **VENUE**

9. Venue is proper in this court, pursuant to 28 USC §1391(e), in that this is an action against officers and agencies of the United States in their official capacities, brought in the District where a Defendant resides and where a substantial part of the events or omissions giving rise to Plaintiff's claim occurred. More specifically, Plaintiff's application for lawful permanent resident status was properly filed and, to Plaintiff's knowledge, remains pending with the New York USCIS District Director.

## **EXHAUSTION OF REMEDIES**

10. Plaintiff has made numerous inquiries via telephone and in person at USCIS into the status of his case. All inquiries are to no avail.

## **CAUSE OF ACTION**

- 11. Plaintiff as above alleged did, in fact, file a petition for Adjustment of Status (I-485) on or about January 1, 2007 based on an approved Immediate Relative Petition with the New York District Office as required by regulation. Plaintiff has complied with all requests and requirements of the USCIS. Additionally, Plaintiff is still married to the sponsoring spouse.
- 12. Plaintiff's application for Adjustment of Status has now remained unadjudicated for over one year since the time of filing. Upon information and belief, the delay in adjudication is solely the result of pending security clearances. The USCIS has announced policy whereby applications for Adjustment of Status that have been pending for security clearances for more than six months will be approved without the completion of said security clearances.
- 13. Plaintiff has been unable to return to Pakistan during the adjudication of his application despite the critical health of mother.
- 14. Defendants have sufficient information to determine Plaintiff's eligibility pursuant to applicable requirements. To date, said applications have not been adjudicated. Defendants' refusal to act in this case is, as a matter of law, arbitrary and not in accordance with the law. Defendants willfully, and unreasonably, have delayed in and have refused to, adjudicate Plaintiff's application for over a year, thereby depriving him of the right to a decision on his status and the peace of mind to which Plaintiff is entitled.
- 15. A Writ of Mandamus will lie where the Petitioner can satisfy a three tier test:

  (1) that the claim is clear and certain; (2) that the Respondent's official duty to act is ministerial and "so plainly prescribed as to be free of doubt' and (3) no other remedy is available at law. See *Barron v. Reich*, 3 F.3d 1370, 1374 (9 Cir 1994.) Although the Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security and his agent the District Director of the New York office of the USCIS are vested with certain discretionary powers concerning the ultimate decision in an application for adjustment of status, the adjudication of the petition is a ministerial act in which the Attorney General is without discretion. The failure to act upon said petition will give rise to a Writ of Mandamus. 28 U.S.C. §1361
- 16. Plaintiff has been greatly damaged by the failure of defendants to act in accord with their duties under the law. His employment authorization is tied to his status as an applicant for permanent residency, and is limited to increments not to exceed one

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year. 8 CFR §274a.12(c)(9). Therefore, he has been forced to repeatedly apply (and pay) for extensions of employment authorization, which is required by law to continually insure his work eligibility. INA §274A(a)(2), 8 USC §1324a(a)(2). Plaintiff has been further been damaged by simply being deprived of the status of lawful permanent residents during the pendency of his application.

- The Defendants, in violation of the Administrative Procedures Act, 5 USC §701 17. et seq., are unlawfully withholding or unreasonably delaying action on Plaintiff's application and have failed to carry out the adjudicative functions delegated to them by law with regard to Plaintiffs' case.
- Plaintiff has made numerous status inquiries in an attempt to secure adjudication 18. of their applications, all to no avail. Accordingly, Plaintiff has been forced to retain the services of an attorney to pursue the instant action.

#### **PRAYER**

WHEREFORE, in view of the arguments and authority noted herein, Plaintiff respectfully prays that the Defendants be cited to appear herein and that, upon due consideration, the Court enter an order:

- (a) Requiring Defendants to adjudicate Plaintiff's application for Adjustment of Status;
- (b) Awarding Plaintiff reasonable attorney's fees; and
- (c) Granting such other relief at law and in equity as justice may require.

Respectfull

MITCHELL C. ZWAIK

Attorney for Plaintiff

3900 Veterans Memorial Highway

Suite 120

Bohemia, NY 11716

(631) 588-4040

## **Supporting Documentation**

Exhibit A	Receipt Notice for I-485 (Application to Register Permanent Residence);
Exhibit B	Request for Initial Interview; Interview Scheduled for April 18, 2007;
Exhibit C	Notice of Approval of Relative Immigrant Visa Petition dated April 18, 2007;
Exhibit D	Medical note from Major Dr. Rizwan Haider, plaintiff's mother's doctor.

# FIGURE UNIVERD STATUES DE ANDERICA }

Receipt Number:		Case Type:				
MSC-07-095-13938		I-485 - Application to Register Permanent Residence or Adjust Status				
Received Date: January 01, 2007	Priority Date:	Applicant: A089357396 CHOUDHARY, NADEEM				
Notice Date: January 05, 2007	Page 1 OF 1	ASC Code: 3				

MITCHELL ZWAIK

3900 VETERANS MEMORIAL HWY STE 120

BOHEMIA NY 11716

Notice Type:

Receipt Notice

Amount Received:

\$1,395.00

The above application has been received. Please notify us immediately if any of the above information is incorrect. If you find it necessary to contact this office in writing, you must include a copy of this receipt notice with your inquiry.

#### **BIOMETRICS-**

The next step is to have your biometrics taken, if required, at a US Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) Application Support Center (ASC).

#### PLEASE NOTE-

USCIS WILL SCHEDULE YOUR BIOMETRICS APPOINTMENT. You will be receiving an appointment notice with a specific time, date and place where you will have your fingerprints and/or photos taken.

### WHAT TO BRING TO Your appointment -

Please bring this letter and your photo identification to your appointment. Acceptable kinds of photo identification are:

- a passport or national photo identification issued by your country,
- a driver's license,
- a military photo identification, or
- a state-issued photo identification card.

If you do not bring this letter and photo identification, we cannot process you.

Please bring a copy of all receipt notices received from USCIS in relation to your current application for benefits.

#### CASE STATUS -

Information about your local office processing times may be obtained by calling the NCSC at 1-800-375-5283.

If you have Internet access, you can visit the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services website at <a href="www.USCIS.gov">www.USCIS.gov</a> where you can find valuable information about forms, filing instructions, and immigration services and benefits.

U. S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

P.O. Box 648005

Lee's Summit, MO 64064

National Customer Service Center: 1-800-375-5283



REQUEST FOR APPLICANT TO APPEAR FOR INITIAL INTERVIEW				нопісе дате February 23, 2007	
FORM I-485, APPLICATION TO REGISTER PERMANENT RESIDENCE OR ADJUST STA				A# A 089 357 396	
APPLICATION NUMBER MSC0709513938	RECEIVED DATE January 01, 2007	PRIORITY DATE January 01	, 2007	PAGE 1 of 1	
NADEEM AHMAD CHOU c/o MITCHELL ZWAIK 3900 VETERANS MEMOI BOHEMIA NY 11716	RIAL HWY STE 120				
Permanent Residence or Adjust	r for the interview appointment, as sched Status (Form I-485) and any supporting a	oplications or netiti	ons Failure to ann	Application to Register pear for this interview and/or failure	
Who should come with you?	ill result in the denial of your application.	(8 CFR 103.2(b)(13)	<b>)</b>		
☐ If your eligibility is based on☐ If you do not speak English☐ Your attorney or authorized re☐ If your eligibility is based on a☐ *NOTE: Every adult (over 18 years in order to enter the building and to y	your marriage, your husband or wife musfluently, you should bring an interpreter. presentative may come with you to the interviparent/child relationship and the child is a minor age) who comes to the interview must brin verify his/her identity at the time of the interview	iew. nor, the petitioning p	arent and the child m	s cuch as a driver's license on ID	
Please be on time, but do not arrive	more than 45 minutes early. We may record NG ITEMS WITH YOU: (Please use as a ch	or videotape your in	terview.		
□ This Interview Notice and your □ A completed medical examinat □ A completed Affidavit(s) of Sup □ Federal income Tax ret □ Letters from each curre □ Evidence of your spons □ All documentation establishing □ Any immigration-related documents used to er □ Your Birth Certificate. □ Your Birth Certificate. □ Your petitioner's Birth Certificat □ If you have children, bring a Bir □ If your eligibility is based on you □ A certified copy of your □ Your spouse's Birth Certificates for all □ Supporting evidence of your rel. □ This may include: tax returns, b credit cards, contracts, leases, poredit cards, contracts, leases, poredit cards, contracts, leases, poredit cards and copy of each supporting evidence of your rel. □ If you have ever been arrested, been dismissed or expunged. If A certified English translation fo in its entirety is complete and accepted.	Government issued photo identification. ion (Form I-693) and vaccination supplement iport (Form I-864) with all required evidence, rurns and W-2's, or certified IRS printouts, for nt employer, verifying current rate of pay and ion's and/or co-sponsor's United States Citize your eligibility for Lawful Permanent Resident iteration ever issued to you, including any Enter the United States, including Passports, A et and your petitioner's evidence of United States the Certificate for each of your children. In marriage, in addition to your spouse comin Marriage Document issued by the appropriat tificate and your spouse's evidence of United iterations were ever married before, all divorce dechildren of this marriage, and custody papers ationship, such as copies of any documentations ank statements, insurance documents (car, lice) the control of the proposition of the proposition of the proposition of the proposition of the related Police Report and the origin of no court record is available, bring a letter from each foreign language document. The transport of the proposition of the proposition of the proposition of the proposition of the proposition.	t in a sealed envelop including the following the past 3 years; I average weekly hourship or Lawful Pernit status. In the past 3 years and the past 3 years; I average weekly hourship or Lawful Pernit status. In ployment Authorizates Citizenship or Lawful authority. If States Citizenship of the civil authority. If States Citizenship of the civil authority is for your children and in regarding joint as fee, health), property cuments you feel manapplication. Otherwish or certified Final Community of the court with juris stator must certify the	e (unless already suting, for each of your surs, and pay stubs for nanent Resident statution Document (EAD ments (I-512) and I-9 awful Permanent Resident Permanent Pe	ponsor's (unless already submitted):  r the past 2 months; us.  r) and any Authorization for Advance  4s (Arrival/Departure Document).  sident Status.  Resident status; rriage/former spouse; hildren not living with you; and your spouse may have together. se, etc.), rental agreements, utility bills, elationship.  ur originals for our records. each arrest, even if the charges have s. th languages, and that the translation	
escheduling will delay processing of a enefits while this application is pendir	ERVIEW- If an emergency, such as your own loes (USCIS) National Customer Service Cen application/petition, and may require some steng.  e USCIS National Customer Service Center.	nter at 1-800-375-528 eps to be repeated. T	3 as soon as possibl t may also affect you	le. Please be advised that religibility for other immigration	
	nship and Immigration Services		day, April 18, 200	·	
				REPRESENTATIVE COPY	

## DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY U.S. CITIZENSHIP AND IMMIGRATION SERVICES

NOTICE OF APPROVAL OF RELATIVE IMMIGRANT VISA PETITION

NAME AND ADDRESS OF APPLICANT/PETITIONER

Marie Catherine Choudhary 29 North Main Street, Apt. 1-R Ellenville, NY 12428

NAME OF BENEFIC Nadeem Ahmad	
CLASSIFICATION 201(b) (Spouse)	FILE NO. A89 357 396
DATE PETITION FILES 01/01/07	DATE OF APPROVAL OF PETITION 04/18/07

**DATE: April 18, 2007** 

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status	. W	petition you filed has been approved. The beneficiary for whom you filed has been given the appropriate classification. Note the approval gives no that the beneficiary will automatically be found eligible for visa issuance, admission to the United States or adjustment to lawful permanent resident the beneficiary gets a visa is decided only when an application is made to a consular officer; whether the beneficiary is admitted or adjusts status ited States is decided only when an application is made to an immigration officer.
1.		YOUR PETITION TO CLASSIFY THE BENEFICIARY AS AN IMMEDIATE RELATIVE OF A UNITED STATES CITIZEN HAS BEEN FORWARDED TO THE UNITED STATES CONSULATE AT THIS COMPLETES ALL ACTION BY THIS SERVICE ON THE PETITION. THE UNITED STATES CONSULATE, WHICH IS PART OF THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WILL CONTACT THE BENEFICIARY AND GIVE INSTRUCTIONS ABOUT GETTING A VISA. QUESTIONS ABOUT GETTING A VISA SHOULD BE MADE TO THE UNITED STATES CONSUL.
2.		IF YOU BECOME A NATURALIZED CITIZEN OF THE UNITED STATES AND AN IMMIGRANT VISA HAS NOT YET BEEN ISSUED TO THI BENEFICIARY NOTIFY THIS OFFICE IMMEDIATELY, GIVING THE DATE OF YOUR NATURALIZATION. IF THE PETITION WAS IN BEHALF OF YUR SON OR DAUGHTER, PLEASE ADVISE WHETHER THAT PERSON IS STILL UNMARRIED. THIS INFORMATIN MAY BE HELPFUL TO THE BENEFICIARY IN GETTING A VISA FASTER.
3.		YOUR PETITION FOR PREFERENCE CLASSIFICATION HAS BEEN FORWARDED TO THE UNITED STATES CONSULATE AT  THIS COMPLETES ALL ACTION BY THE SERVICE. THIS SERVICE DOES NOT ISSUE VISAS IN OTHER  COUNTRIES. VISAS ARE ISSUED ONLY BY UNITED STATES CONSULS WHO ARE EMPLOYEES OF THE UNITED STATES  DEPARTMENT OF STATE. WHEN THE BENEFICIARY'S TURN IS REACHED ON THE VISA WAITING LIST. THE UNITED STATES  CONSUL WILL CONTACT THE BENEFICIARY AND GIVE INSTURCTIONS ABOUT GETTING A VISA. VISAS ARE ISSUED ACCORDING  TO THE DATE THE PETITION WAS FILED. QUESTIONS ABOUT GETTING A VISA SHOULD BE ADDRESSED TO THE UNITED STATES  CONSUL.
4.		YOUR PETITION SAYS THAT THE BENEFICIARY IS IN THE UNITED STATES AND WILL APPLY TO BECOME A LAWFUL PERMANENT RESIDENT. THE ENCLOSED APPLICATION (FORM I-485) SHOULD BE COMPLETED AND SUBMITTED BY THE BENEFICIARY WITHIN 30 DAYS. (IF THE BENEFICIARY PREVIOUSLY SUBMITTED SUCH AN APPLICATION AND HAD IT RETURNED, IT SHOULD BE

5. THE BENEFICIARY WILL BE INFORMED OF THE DECISION MADE ON THE PENDING APPLICATION TO BECOME A LAWFUL PERMANENT RESIDENT.

6. THE PETITION SAYS THAT THE BENEFICIARY IS IN THE UNITED STATES AND WILL APPLY TO BECOME A LAWFUL PERMANENT RESIDENT. THE BENEFICIARY MAY NOT APPLY TO BECOME A PERMANENT RESIDENT. HOWEVER UNTIL A VISA NUMBER IS AVAILBALE. INFORMATION ABOUT VISA NUMBERS MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE., BUREAU OF CONSULAR AFFAIRS, WAHSINGTON, DC.

7. 
ORIGINAL DOCUMENTS SUBMITTED IN SUPPORT OF YOUR PETITION UNACCOMPANIED BY COPIES HAVE BEEN MADE A PERMANENT PART OF THE PETITION. ANY OTHERS ARE BEING RETURNED WITH THIS FORM.

3. 📕 REMARKS.

CC: Toni Nicolo, Esq. 3900 Veteran's Memorial Highway, Suite 120 Bohemia, NY 11716

VERY TRULY YOURS

Andréa J. Quarantillo DISTRICT DIRECTOR NEW YORK DISTRICT

FORM I-171

Major Dr. Rizwan Haider

M.B.B.S. (A.M.C) FCPS (Pak.) Medical Specialist

KUTCHERY ROAD GUJRAT.

PH: OFF: 3517877, RES: 3582186

Wireless: 0533-007067

Mirza Hospital

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## UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT JUSTICE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

NADEEM CHOUDHARY,

Plaintiff,

-against-

MICHAEL B. MUKASEY, Attorney General of the United States of America, MICHAEL CHERTOFF, Secretary of the U.S. Dept. of Homeland Security, ROBERT S. MUELLER, III, Director, Federal Bureau of Investigations, DR. EMILIO T. GONZALEZ, Director, U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services, and ANDREA QUARANTILLO, District Director, U.S. Citizenship & Immigration Services, New York District Office,

Defendants.

### WRIT OF MANDAMUS

#### MITCHELL C. ZWAIK

Attorney for Plaintiff
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Bohemia, NY 11716
(631) 588-4040